VZCZCXRO8583 RR RUEHDT RUEHPB DE RUEHKO #0101 0160900 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 160900Z JAN 09 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC INFO RUCNARF/ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM COLLECTIVE RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7266 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2983 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 3279 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 1119 RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 1901 RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 4247 RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 5689 RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 2460 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHINGTON DC RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 000101

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP, S/CT, EEB/ECS/TFS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EFIN PTER PREL PGOV JA LE

SUBJECT: TERRORISM FINANCE--GOJ RESPONSE TO DESIGNATION OF WAAD PROJECT

REF: STATE 1800

(SBU) On January 14, Embassy Tokyo delivered reftel points on U.S. designation of the Waad Project to MOFA International Counterterrorism Cooperation Division Deputy Director Miyako Ishimura. Embassy Tokyo noted that the designation of the Waad Project as a terrorist support organization under Executive Order 13224 prohibits U.S. persons from engaging in any transactions with the Lebanon-based, Hizballah-run construction company. Noting the designation is limited to U.S. persons, we stressed the importance of other countries, including Japan, taking similar steps to freeze Waad's assets. Ishimura stated that Japan, while not sanctioning Hizballah, shares U.S. concerns and appreciated our efforts to tell her government of the designation. She added that Japan would review the information provided and inform us of any actions taken against the company. ZUMWALT